



## Department of Environmental Protect

Twin Towers Building 2600 Blair Stone Road Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400 Kirby B. Green, III Secretary

January 15, 1999

Mr. Wayne Hansel
Code 18B7
Southern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
P.O. Box 190010
North Charleston, South Carolina 29419-0068

RE: BRAC Environmental Site Screening Report, Study Area 54, McCoy Annex, Naval Training Center, Orlando, FL

Dear Mr. Hansel:

I have completed my review of the BRAC Environmental Site Screening Report for Study Areas 54 (SA 54), McCoy Annex, dated December 2, 1998 (received December 3, 1998), prepared and submitted by Harding Lawson Associates. Based upon the information provided in the report, the Department cannot concur with the recommendation that SA 54 be reclassified from 7/Gray to 1/White and be made available for transfer. Concentrations of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in surface and subsurface soils at the two broad areas investigated exceed the Department's industrial soil cleanup target levels (SCTLs).

The report specifies that there is nothing in the historical record to suggest that past site use has contributed to the release of PAH compounds. Based upon the historical record and analysis of aerial photographs, two locations were picked from two undisturbed areas for background sampling as part of the Background Sampling Report at Naval Training Center Orlando. Because these samples contained PAHs at levels above screening concentrations, the areas were made into SA 54.

Harding Lawson hypothesizes in the report that the PAHs are present due to either forest fires known to have occurred in adjacent areas during the 1970's or to controlled burning that may have taken place to mitigate the potential for fires during drought conditions. However, no supporting evidence for either of these past scenarios is presented in the report. Also, the Pinecastle Aero Club, consisting of an airstrip, an aircraft hanger and several other buildings, was located in the vicinity of the two areas comprising SA 54.

Conclusive evidence must be provided to verify that the PAHs detected were the result of forest fires or controlled burning

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activities. Sources, whether through personnel interviews, facility documents or newspaper reports, should be found to confirm that areas where high levels of PAHs were detected correlate to areas of known forest fires or controlled burning. Even so, because the high levels of PAHs in surface and subsurface soils pose a risk, it may be necessary for institutional controls to be employed to restrict site access.

If I can be of any further assistance with this matter, please contact me at (850)488-3693.

Sincerely,

David P. Grabka

Remedial Project Manager

cc: Lt. Gary Whipple, NTC Orlando
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